

CLAIMS:

1. A non-asbestos friction material obtained by molding and curing a composition comprising a fibrous base other
5 than asbestos, a binder and a filler; wherein the fibrous base is composed in part of 1 to 15 vol % of inorganic fibers having a Mohs hardness of less than 4.5 and the filler includes 0.5 to 15 vol % of cashew dust, based on the overall composition.

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2. A non-asbestos friction material obtained by molding and curing a composition comprising a fibrous base other than asbestos, a binder and a filler; wherein the fibrous
15 base is composed in part of inorganic fibers having a Mohs hardness of less than 4.5 in combination with inorganic fibers having a Mohs hardness of at least 4.5, and the filler includes 0.5 to 15 vol % of cashew dust, based on the overall composition.

20 3. The non-asbestos friction material of claim 2, wherein the inorganic fibers having a Mohs hardness of at least 4.5 account for up to 80 vol % of the combined amount of inorganic fibers having a Mohs hardness of less than 4.5 and inorganic fibers having a Mohs hardness of at least 4.5.

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4. The non-asbestos friction material of claim 1 or 2, wherein the inorganic fibers having a Mohs hardness of less than 4.5 are of one or more type selected from among
30 potassium titanate fibers, magnesium carbonate fibers, magnesium sulfate fibers and calcium carbonate fibers.

5. The non-asbestos friction material of claim 1 or 2, wherein the inorganic fibers having a Mohs hardness of at least 4.5 are of one or more type selected from among glass
35 fibers, rock wool, ceramic fibers and metal fibers.

6. The non-asbestos friction material of claim 1 or 2, wherein the inorganic fibers have a length of 50 to 4,000 μm and a diameter of 5 to 60 μm .